

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR ATTACHING A HEAT SINK TO A CIRCUIT
BOARD COMPONENT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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A retainer directly attaches to a circuit board component and to a heat sink and secures the circuit board component to the heat sink. The retainer provides a mechanical attachment between the heat sink and the circuit board component. Such mechanical attachment maintains thermal communication between the heat sink and the 10 circuit board component in the absence of a thermally conductive adhesive between the heat sink and the circuit board component for the operational life of the circuit board component. Furthermore, because the retainer attaches directly to the circuit board component and to the heat sink, the retainer minimizes the necessity for use of mounting holes in the circuit board associated with the circuit board component to secure the heat 15 sink to the circuit board component.